

REMARKS

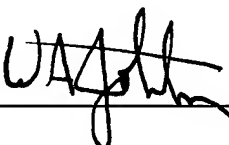
Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of this application is respectfully requested.

A new paragraph regarding the claimed priority of the present invention has been added to the beginning of the specification. Claims 1-18 are now pending.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance for all pending claims of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/5/03

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.A. Johnston', is written over a horizontal line.

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